Record Nr. UNINA9910810669703321 Autore Darwin Charles < 1809-1882.> Titolo The life of Erasmus Darwin / / by Charles Darwin; edited by Desmond King-Hele New York, : Cambridge University Press, c2003 Pubbl/distr/stampa 1-107-13398-X **ISBN** 1-280-43419-8 9786610434190 0-511-17793-3 0-511-02110-0 0-511-14844-5 0-511-33034-0 0-511-54144-9 0-511-04574-3 Edizione [1st unabridged ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (xx, 172 pages) : digital, PDF file(s) King-HeleDesmond <1927-> Altri autori (Persone) 508/.092 Disciplina В Soggetti Naturalists - England Physicians - England Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Originally published: 1879. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references (p. 144-147) and index. Nota di contenuto Introduction -- Synopsis -- Charles Darwin's preface -- The Life of Erasmus Darwin by Charles Darwin -- Charles Darwin's references --Notes on the text. Sommario/riassunto Charles Darwin's book about his grandfather, The Life of Erasmus Darwin, is curiously fascinating. Before publication in 1879, it was shortened by 16%, with several of the cuts directed at its most provocative parts. The cutter, with Charles's permission, was his

> daughter Henrietta - an example of the strong hidden hand of meekseeming Victorian women. Originally published in 2003, this first unabridged edition, edited by Desmond King-Hele, includes all that Charles originally intended, the cuts being restored and printed in italics. Erasmus Darwin was one of the leading intellectuals of the

eighteenth century. He was a respected physician, a well-known poet, a keen mechanical inventor, and a founding member of the influential Lunar Society. He also possessed an amazing insight into the many branches of physical and biological science. Most notably, he adopted what we now call biological evolution as his theory of life, 65 years prior to Charles Darwin's Origin of Species.